

Taiwan is an openly democratic society. Free and fair elections are held at all levels of government. Two years ago, Chen Shui-bian was the first President from the opposition party to be elected as Taiwan's president. In addition, Taiwan's constitution guarantees its citizens freedom of assembly, expression and association, freedom of religion and freedom of the press.

President Chen has been a bulwark of support for human rights. He has committed Taiwan to upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, and the Declaration and Action Program of the 1993 Vienna Conference on Human Rights.

Since his election, President Chen has continued to seek renewed political and commercial dialogue with the Chinese mainland. Taiwan believes that its membership in the United Nations would have a positive effect on peace and stability in the region. This belief is supported by such examples as East and West Germany which were both members of the UN and by the membership of both North and South Korea which have been seeking an improved relationship.

A number of countries have asked the United Nations to reconsider Taiwan for UN membership. Both Houses of the U.S. Congress, by large margins, have endorsed Taiwan's desire for participation in the United Nations. The time has come for Taiwan to officially enter the community of nations.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH JERNSTEDT

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to recognize one of Oregon's most distinguished sons, Kenneth Jernstedt, on the occasion of the dedication of Ken Jernstedt Airfield on September 8, 2001, in the City of Hood River, Oregon.

A devoted husband and father, a fearless warrior, a public servant, and a friend to the people of the Columbia Gorge, Ken Jernstedt is as fine an American as I have ever known. Naming the airfield in Ken's honor is a fitting tribute to a man who not only has served this community so ably, but who personifies aviation in Oregon. From his days as a combat pilot in the skies over China to his service as a test pilot after his return, Ken is an airman through and through.

Recruited from the U.S. Marine Air Corps in 1941, Ken Jernstedt was among a restless and eager group of young pilots who answered the call to protect the Burma Road, a vital support line into China. These young men made up the American Volunteer Group, commonly known as the Flying Tigers, a clandestine organization of American civilian volunteers that became operational even before the United States entered the war against Japan.

The Flying Tigers served in China and Southeast Asia from December, 1941 to July, 1942 under the command of their charismatic leader, Claire Chennault. In just six months of combat operations, Jernstedt and his comrades-in-arms were credited with destroying 296 enemy planes and more than 1,000 air-

men. For this toll on the enemy 22 Tigers made the ultimate sacrifice, never to return to the country they had served so honorably.

During his tour with the Flying Tigers, Ken Jernstedt served as a flight leader of the 3rd Squadron. In combat against the enemy, he scored 10½ victories in his P-40 fighter, earning him the Distinguished Flying Cross, one of the highest decorations awarded by the United States for valor in aerial combat. Following the disbandment of the Flying Tigers in 1942, Ken became an experimental plane test pilot, a job no less dangerous than combat against the Japanese. Among the planes he piloted was the P-47 Thunderbolt.

Later in his life, Ken directed his tremendous energies toward less dangerous endeavors. After serving as mayor of the City of Hood River from 1959 to 1960, he was elected to the State Legislature, where he served with distinction in both the House and Senate for a combined 20 years. Following his departure from the Senate, Ken again served as mayor of Hood River from 1989 to 1990. In addition to his invaluable public service at both the local and state levels, Ken has served as honorary chair of the Air Safety and Education Foundation of the Oregon Pilots Association.

In the future, as generations not yet born pass through the gates of Ken Jernstedt Airfield, they will be reminded of this giant of a man. If they admire courage in the face of danger, if they value personal sacrifice in a culture of self gratification, and if they cherish freedom in a world filled with oppression, they will salute him as I salute him today. Ken Jernstedt is, in a word, a patriot. For one who so values the liberty that was purchased with the courage of men like him, I can think of no higher compliment.

PROVIDING FOR APPEALS BY THIRD PARTIES IN CERTAIN PATENT REEXAMINATION PRO- CEEDINGS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I support passage of this bill and would like to commend Chairman COBLE and Ranking Member BERMAN for addressing this issue. The patent reexamination process, which lets parties challenge patents that the PTO already has issued, is subject to numerous procedural and arbitrary limits that inhibit its effectiveness.

For example, section 315 of the patent law says third parties who file for a reexamination and then lose can file an administrative appeal but then cannot appeal that decision to the Federal Circuit. The law gives only a patent owner the right to appeal to the Federal courts. That provision contradicts the very purpose of reexamination—if someone feels the PTO incorrectly rules on an issue of patentability, that party should have the right to an appeal.

Fortunately, the legislation before us resolves this problem. It amends the law so that any party in reexamination—the patent owner or the third party—can appeal a decision of the PTO to the Federal Circuit. This legislation will go a long way to shoring up our patent

system and has the support of numerous patent experts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 333 and 334, I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both measures.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained by a delayed flight and was unable to be present last night for floor votes.

If had been present, I would have voted in the affirmative on H.R. 2291 and H. Con. Res. 233.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer a personal explanation. Yesterday, I was absent from the Chamber as I attended the funeral of Liston Ramsey, the late Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives. During that time, I was not present to vote on Roll Call Votes 333 and 334. Had I been present, I would have voted Yes on both. I ask that my statement be submitted in the appropriate place in the RECORD.

VERMONT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL TOWN MEETING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2001

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding work done by participants in my Student Congressional Town Meeting held this summer. These participants were part of a group of high school students from around Vermont who testified about the concerns they have as teenagers, and about what they would like to see government do regarding these concerns.

I am asking that these statements be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as I believe that the views of these young persons will benefit my colleagues.

REGARDING THE MEDIA IN PUBLIC LIFE, MAY 7, 2001

APRIL LEICHTNAM: "There are two ways to slide through life; to believe everything or doubt everything. Both ways save us from